

This isn't a fake... it's the REAL

LIFE OF MONTY

NUMBER 11

DATED JULY 1981

This is a reduced version of the ORIGINAL COVER of LIFE OF MONTY, which first came out in June 1980. The CHALLENGE GAME begins on page 9.

Your sub ends with # _____

unless you trade _____

or this is a SAMPLE / COMPLIMENTARY

_____ You have personal notes on page 11.

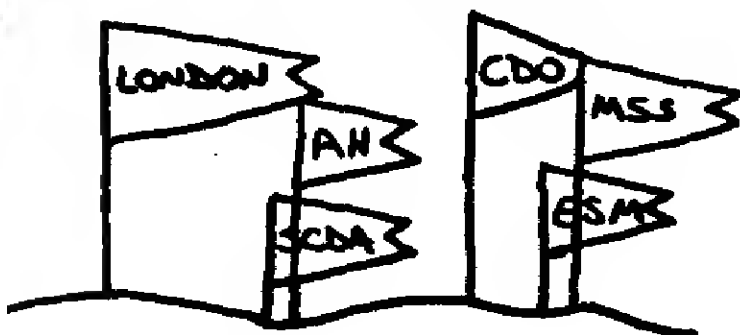
GAME(S) ENCLOSED: BOG BOLE BIAS KM EMA SON 3R

Guess who's back? OK, so this might be a few days late - then again, it might be rather early. It all depends on how hard my finals are. Anyway, this being the PRE-ORIGINS issue, inside contains the official DIRECTIONS TO ORIGINS based on personal experience. Also, this issue has the start of the BYRNE-MARTIN CHALLENGE featuring MARK LEW and JOHN MICHALSKI among DAVE GRABAR and others. And now, to start things off.....

"I'm A.E. Dott, and nobody gives a damn where I live as long as they know AH is in Baltimore, MD....Don Greenwood, and how I never got to be the captain, I'll never know....Alan Moon, and I'm the only guy that cares about SPI games (the other three boo), so I'm the captain.... Tom Shaw, and I'd like to mmmph- (How did that happen?)....Those are the varsity dippers from AVALON HILL!"

"Bruce Linsey, from Watervliet, NY (now he lives in Albany, supposedly)....Barbara Barno, from Endwell, NY....Tom Swider, from the mediocre capital of the world, Endwell, NY....Marion Bates, from Kalkaska, MI.....And those are the varsity dippers from the ENDWELLIAN SOCIETY OF MEDIOCRITY!"

(Whistle blast) "It's time to match stabs with the champions in America's favorite game with plastic (maybe they are still wooden) blocks, the varsity sport of the mouth,



DIP BOWL

The eleventh game of the 1981 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT comes to you almost LIVE from Zellerbach Auditorium on the campus of UC Berkeley, insofar as an Econ class is held up in Wheeler...." As usual, time constraints require us to cut out the first half and most of the second, but they were too boring anyway. Let's get right to the action, with ESM holding a 345-0 lead.

"The next bonus is worth 20 points, here's the tossup: for 10 points, name the only game that covers ALL of WWII, not just Europe like THIRD-" (BZZZZZ) "AH, Moon....Glob-mmph" (Don Greenwood holds his hand over Alan's mouth, saying "If you want to edit the AVALON HILL GENERAL, forget about that other company!")

"Sorry, 5 point penalty, I'll finish the question. Not just Europe like THIRD REICH or the Pacific like PEARL HARBOR."

(RRRING) "ESM, Swider....Global War"

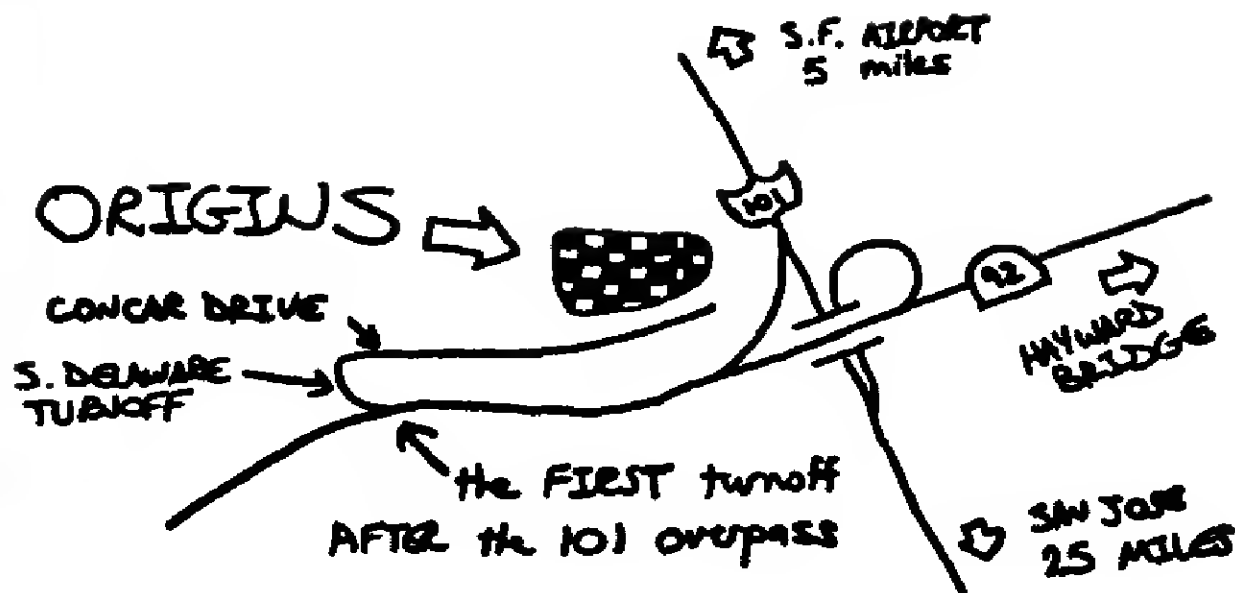
"Hey, that's right again, and here's the 20 point bonus: there are two land areas in Diplomacy (here, Barbara Barno shouts out "Did he say DIPLOMACY? I wondered why it was called DIP BOWL - I thought it referred to the contestants") that are adjacent to four sea areas. For 10 points each, name the land area and the sea area besides the North that are adjacent to both of these areas."

(Swider comes up with it) "Skaggerak and Sweden"

"Another 20 points! Will this team never stop? The next bonus is worth 30 points, but for a quick 10, answer this tossup: for 10 points, a few shows ago, there was a question dealing with fakes. Back then, Donovan claimed to have did the MURDERING MINISTERS fake. However, recent evidence has shown that another person was responsible for this fake. Who? (Silence) Time, it was Jane Proskin."

"WHO?" shouts Linsey.

NOW WHAT? HERE'S A MAP....



It's simple - once you've turned off of 101, or passed over 101 on 92, get off at the FIRST turnoff, and head on Concar Drive straight back toward 101; you should reach the Dunfey, which is right next to 101. Now find a parking spot.....

+++++
NOW THERE'S TWO

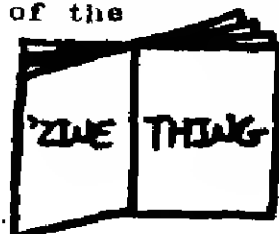
In VOICE OF DOOM #35 (Circulation 104, from Bruce Linsey, 24A Quarry Drive, Albany, NY 12205, subs 10/\$5.50, no game openings for 8 months at least), Bruce (aka BRUX) claims that he didn't do the fake LOM. That leaves Dick Martin....but I still think whoever did WOD #34 is guilty (I think that Bruce did it). Hey BRUX - 999! (See VOD #35 for details, at the bottom of page 5)

Remember, I'm on the lookout for 'zines that will have accounts of EASTCON in them...REWARDS offered! (By the way, I'll try to have some word about ORIGINS in the next issue, but for a first-class dippy report, read it from people who'll know - LIBERTINEAN and/or BLACK FROG are good choices, since Bumpas and Masters are the bigwigs at the Dippy tournament this year.

Which reminds me....next issue is the OFFICIAL FIRST ANNIVERSARY ISSUE of LIFE OF MONTY. Actually, this is the "real anniversary", but next month will be a double celebration, what with ORIGINS and all that. Anybody out there have any articles for this auspicious occasion? I'll reward handsomely....

-YOU-KNOW-IT'S-NOT-A-FAKE-BECAUSE-ONLY-MY-TYPEWRITER-HAS-°-AND-X-AND-Y-AND-#-AND-^-

Is it zeen or zien or xyn? Who cares? It's time for another installment of the



This month's 'ZINE THING features an almost complete rundown of the 'zines I happen to have. First off, there's DOT HAPPY by Allen Wells, 550 Memorial Drive #2E3, Cambridge, MA 02139, with game openings in Diplomacy (\$5 + \$5 NMR deposit) and Flexible Build Diplomacy (just like Regular except before Spring 1901, you may build any type of units on your SCs, and during each Winter turn, you can build on ANY

4 LIFE OF MONTY 7/81

SC that you control, NOT just the ones in your home country; same fee). Subs are 50¢ an issue; DOT HAPPY is 16 digest-sized pages with cover. For those of you that have DOT HAPPY #3 and are planning on attending ORIGINS, let me warn you that the Junipero Serra Freeway (I-280) adds about 5 miles to the trip (it might be closer to 10).

WHITESTONIA, by John Caruso, 160-02 43rd Avenue, Second Floor, Flushing, NY 11358. Forget what I said last month about the boring commentary; this 'zine's got IT! Game fee for IT! is only \$100 or so, plus \$5/turn to cover the postage for all of those forms. (IT! was first announced in the Mar/Apr 1977 issue of THE GENERAL, complete with a library of rules, 2 cardboard boxes of errata, and 31 acres of map in 128 colors.) Also available, Diplomacy for \$2 fee. Subs are \$5 for 10 issues. Each and every WHITESTONIA contains the "Player Profiles," an up close and personal look at the Dip players of today, plus a few articles, a few games, a few good letters, an occasional "look-alike" contest, and, if you're real good, a good cover illustration. Oh, I almost forgot KATHY'S KORNOR, by Kathy Byrne of the same address. The KORNOR is a subzine to WHITESTONIA, and contains "Dear Kathy," a letter column of a different sort, and DIP SHUTES (sic) AND LADDERS. I must question Kathy's nomination for hobby queen, though: mainly because I'm a writer for....

ALARMS & EXCURSIONS, available at a hobby store near you or from Lee Gold, 3965 Alla Road, Los Angeles, CA 90066, for \$1.50 plus postage (63¢ book rate, \$1.40 UPS, \$2.42 first class). This has nothing to do with Diplomacy; rather, it deals with FRP games such as D&D, RUNEQUEST, THE FANTASY TRIP, TOP SECRET, DRAGONQUEST, etc. The articles are written by amateur publishers who have things to say about FRP'ing, either fiction stories or facts dealing with the playing of these games. Off the record, I've heard rumors that the 'zine wants to back Peggy Gemignani for hobby queen, since she writes for A&E occasionally, but since A&E isn't a dip 'zine, it can't make any nominations. Being an A&E writer myself, I have to go along with this choice. Sorry, Kathy. (Wasn't it Roy Henricks who once said that Kathy Byrne was a Peggy Gemignani pseudonym?)

ENVOY, by Roy Henricks every 5 weeks or so, 128 Deerfield Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15235. Subs are 3.12¢ per digest-sized page (not incl. cover) plus postage (minimum \$5 sub required). Games open in (take a deep breath) Diplomacy, Deadman Dip, AREA-rated Dip, Prize Dip (additional \$20 fee, but the winner(s) split the \$140 evenly), Kingmaker, Rail Baron, Gunslinger (whenever AH publishes it), Richthofen's War, WS&M, AREA-rated Machiavelli, Source of the Nile, and Submarine. Fees range from \$2 to \$4, plus \$20 for Prize Dip. ENVOY is mostly games, but there are also contests, articles, and the occasional hobby news word or two.

MANIACAL AND A LOT OF OTHER GARBAGE, by Dick Martin, 26 Orchard Way N, Rockville, MD 20854, for 80¢ a month; if you can't convince Dick to give you this special rate, it's \$1.60 a month. This 'zine has never been called the same thing twice (for that matter, it's never been called THE SAME THING TWICE), so use my title. The 'zine contains articles about the hobby and the hobbyists, a few games, lots of press (mainly black press), and other stuff like that. Dick is one of the combatants in the LOM CHALLENGE GAME, which is somewhere in this issue.

THE WHITE DUKE has apparently folded. Steve Shaddix doesn't get LOM any more unless he pays for it.

BORN TO DIP did likewise. This causes a bit of trouble, as both Steve Shaddix and Brad Wilson are in current games. Anybody out there want to be a standby and fill either a KINGMAKER or a DIPLOMACY (81AS) position, let me know.

BLACK PROG, by Jack Masters, 25711 North Vista Fairways Drive, Valencia, CA 91355. Available for \$5/10 issues; game openings available in Diplomacy and Cosmic Encounter. This is one of the three 'zines that I consider to be MUST READING (ENVOY, for the games, and RETALIATION

The list is short because of the Page 9 Challenge

being the other two). Jack has written such stories as the Pug Bocarsley tale, the Linsey-Rodriguez-McKibbin letters, the April Fool issue (originally, just about everything said in the issue was supposed to be false, but a bunch of stuff ended up true, like the Chutes and Ladders opening in KATHY'S KORNOR and John Boardman's leaving the SON (Source of the Nile) game here), and the original EUROPA EXPRESS. Highly recommended for fake collectors, since Jack's fakes are mailed to BLACK FROG subbers.

ARES, by Simulations Publications, Inc., 257 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10010, for \$16/year (6 issues). ARES is the sci-fi/fantasy version of STRATEGY & TACTICS (available for \$18/year); each issue contains its own game, usually with 100 counters and an 11 x 17 map, although from now on, occasional issues will have larger games. Past games have been WORLDKILLER, CHECK OF THE PANDORA, BARBARIAN KINGS, ARENA OF DEATH, CITADEL OF BLOOD, VOYAGE OF THE PANDORA, RESCUE FROM THE HIVE, and RANGAROK. Also in each issue are stories based on the game, and two running features: SCIENCE FOR SCIENCE FICTION and FACTS FOR FANTASY. Note that these are professional-style magazines (S&T and ARES), unlike the other 'zines mentioned; S&T and ARES, if you didn't already know, are SPI's answer to the AVALON HILL GENERAL, except that the SPI magazines have games and don't limit their talk to the games of their own company. NOTE: SPI's new policy states that games in S&T and ARES will NOT be made available to the general public outside of the magazines. (Exceptions: Great Battles of the American Civil War, Victory in the West, Central Front, and any other series.)

EUROPA EXPRESS, by Gary Coughlan, 4614 Martha Cole Lane, Memphis, TN 38118, for all of \$6.00 (or 30 20¢ stamps) per 10 issues. This one features international games printed in any of eight languages depending on who's ahead, a lot of nasty letters (in #2, John Boardman lets Gary have it, only to get it from Rod Walker in #3), and rather picturesque plugs. Gary has been complaining because his GREAT WHITE SHARK didn't win the Hobby Mascot contest.

SLEEPLESS KNIGHTS, by Dave Carter, 118 Horsham Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 1Z9 CANADA, sells for \$3/10 issues with \$2 game fee. Issue #2 contained 8 pages of talk on fakes, a Dip Crossword puzzle, and some sick jokes. Oh, yes, it's printed upside down - even the staple.

HOOF AND MOUTH, by Don Sigwalt, 125 Hebard Street, Rochester, NY 14605 with an actual retail price of 60¢ per issue plus \$2.50 game fee. Issue #14 had a circulation of 6 and 3 legal-size pages (8 1/2 x 14 inches). It needs time and subbers, if you ask me.

TETRACUSPID (I always thought it was a tooth, but it's the graph of $x^{2/3} + y^{2/3} = a$), by Richard Kovalick, Jr., 9 Ladd Place, Watertown, MA 02172. Mostly games here for 1¢/page plus postage, plus \$2 fee. Reminds me of RUNESTONE a lot, except the copying is better.

Since nobody cares about the AWA, I won't plug the AMERICAN WARGAMER.

ORIGINS.....I currently hold two records. One of these, longest time to fill a game, will NEVER be broken. The other, 28 games sold at one auction, is in trouble at this year's ORIGINS, LIVE from the Dunfey Hotel in San Mateo, CA, July 2-4. Afterwards, a special issue of LIFE OF MONTY will be published to commemorate (or however that word's spelled) the occasion AND to celebrate the FIRST ANNIVERSARY of this 'zine. This year's DipCon tournament will use the BUMPAS SYSTEM: 16 points for a win all the way down to -6 for a seventh; draws range from 10 each to 0 each depending on the number of players involved. In addition, 1 point is added for each SC held at the end of a full turn (i.e. you get points for 1901 AND points for 1902 AND for 1903....), minus 0.1 for each season you're in the game. Your scores are averaged, and the top seven players at the beginning of Monday play in one final game, with points directly added on. Whoever's ahead after that game WINS the tournament AND the NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP....although I think that it should be split into regions - Pacificon, Atlanticon, Michicon, and whatever happens to be held down south

6 LIFE OF MONTY 7/81